

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 22 November 1966



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DAILY BRIEF
22 NOVEMBER 1966

1. North Vietnam

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2. South Vietnam

Chief of State Thieu sees a continuing key role for the military in South Vietnam in spite of movement toward a civilian-based government. Thieu told General Westmoreland yesterday he doubted that a strong political party could be formed and said that even if it were, it will be the army and not a political party that will carry the fight against the Viet Cong.

Thieu said he would not be a candidate for office under the forthcoming constitution, but that other generals might run.

Thieu denied rumors of strained relations between himself and Ky. He said Ky himself was aware that Thieu had been a useful restraining influence on Ky's impetuosity.

3. Jordan

King Husayn's "brother" Arabs in Egypt and Syria are exploiting the unrest in Jordan to encourage his people to rise against him. The King's security forces in fact have their hands full trying to control antiregime demonstrations. [redacted] it took two battalions of troops to put down a riot yesterday in a west Jordan town.

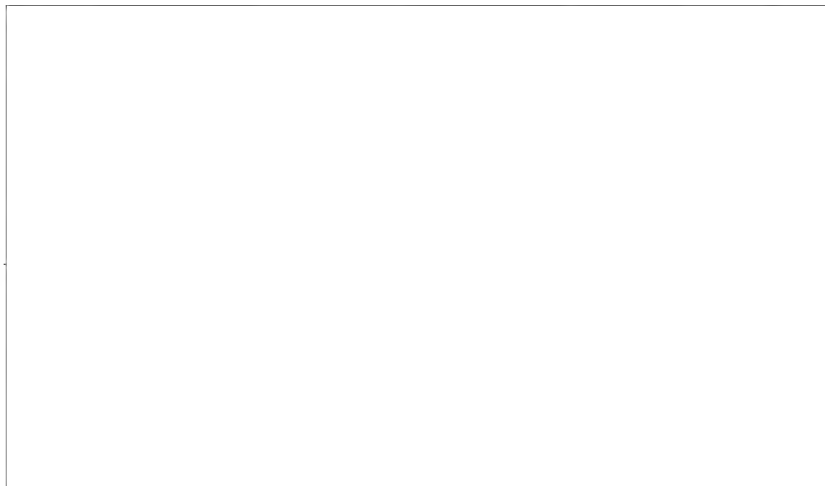
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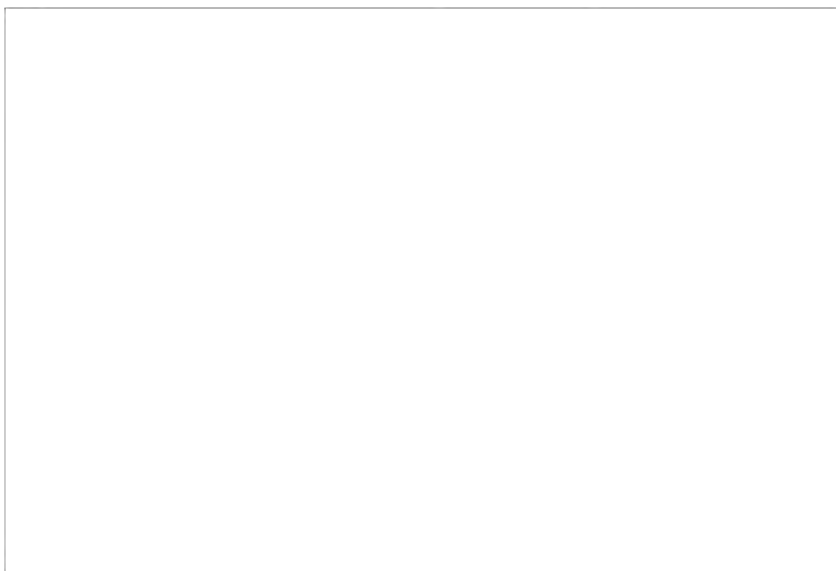
4. Soviet Union

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5. Soviet Union

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6. Soviet Union

It looks as though Raul Castro got what he wanted in Moscow last spring-- a new military aid agreement.

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7. Rhodesia

Smith has tossed Prime Minister Wilson a hot potato [REDACTED]

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Smith has publicly accepted an invitation to appear on British television, and many Britons will interpret his willingness to come to London as a sign of reasonableness. Should Wilson now go ahead and break--or refuse Smith a visa--he is likely to get most of the blame.

Wilson cannot delay for long, however, if he is to get UN action on the mandatory economic sanctions he promised African commonwealth leaders if Smith is still in business at the end of the year.

8. Australia

Saturday's elections should pose no threat to Prime Minister Holt's government. Holt may lose two Senate seats, however [REDACTED]

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Since President Johnson's visit, Holt has attempted to depict the election as a referendum on his government's Vietnam policy and close ties with the US.

9. Communist China

[REDACTED]

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